

# Family Page

## Background Reflection

Three days after Jesus' death on the cross, three women came to complete the burial custom of placing spices on his body. Instead of finding his tomb blocked by a large stone, they found the stone rolled away, the tomb empty, and a young man present who told them that Jesus had been raised!

Jesus' presence did not end at the cross or in the grave. Jesus is with us now and always. And because of his Resurrection, we know that we will be raised to new life after we die. Easter Sunday is a key moment when we mark and celebrate the day of Jesus' rising from the dead. But for Catholics, every Sunday Mass is a celebration of Easter!

This chapter focuses on helping your child understand how he or she celebrates the Resurrection and the Sunday Mass. Allow the following words to ring in *your* heart and ears for the incredible impact of Easter Sunday: Jesus rose from the dead. He is with us now and always!

## Family Activities

- Think of a new way this year to celebrate Easter more intentionally. Consider ideas like attending all Holy Week services, having a Resurrection party with a focus on Jesus, or reenacting the story at home. Remember the Easter season lasts for fifty days, so keep the celebration going after Easter Sunday!
- Make Resurrection rolls together with your children. Find an easy recipe online. While you eat the rolls, read together the Scripture story on page 1568 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Mark 16:1-6).
- Watch the video "Top 5 List: Easter Sunday | Jesus and the Journey to the Cross #3" (YouTube, 3:10) together. Take time to discuss as a family how you can focus on the Resurrection of Jesus more during the Easter season.

## People of Faith

### Saint Mary Magdalene (first century)

Saint Mary Magdalene was a friend of Jesus. She listened when he taught and stood by him when he died. Mary was the first person to see the Risen Jesus on Easter and to share the Good News with his Apostles. Mary Magdalene's feast day is July 22.

## Prayer

*Pray this prayer together as a family, beginning and ending with the Sign of the Cross.*

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of Easter, when your Son, Jesus, rose from the dead. Help us to celebrate this gift and to remember it each time we participate at Mass. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

